

It is not given to any one person to know everything. One of the unknown things is where to draw the line so as never to admit into a training-school a person who will in some way offend, and never refuse one who might be helpful as a graduate nurse.

If a graduate of a theological seminary writes good sermons but fails to please from lack of tact, bad table manners, or boresome stories, the world blames the man, not the school.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES

BY LAVINIA L. DOCK

THE International Council of Nurses is one of the many waves of progress set in motion by the impetus of the enthusiasm and mental ardor generated by the great gathering of women from all parts of the world known as the "International Congress of Women," which met in London in June, 1899.

While the congress was preparing, the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland passed a resolution and forwarded it to the international secretary, urging that trained nursing for the sick should form one of the subjects for discussion at the congress. Later, at an International Council committee meeting, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick proposed that nursing should form a department of the Professional Section, and this was agreed to. She was further made convener and chairman of this section, with Miss Isla Stewart, Miss Louisa Stevenson, and Miss M. Huxley on the committee to help look after nursing interests.

American and Canadian nurses visiting London at the time of the congress were invited to the banquet given by the Matrons' Council in honor of Mrs. May Wright Sewall and the foreign members. Here the project of international organization was talked of, Mrs. Sewall being, naturally, deeply interested in having women of all occupations take up the council idea of universal friendliness of relation. The next day at the annual meeting of the Matrons' Council, at which several American nurses were present, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick moved and Miss Isla Stewart seconded the following resolution:

"That steps be taken to organize an International Council of Nurses by calling upon the officers and honorary members of the Matrons' Council to form a Provisional Committee, with power to add to their number, to consider the best method of organization."

Mrs. Sewall, who was present, spoke warmly in encouragement and support. After the congress, at a meeting called by Miss Isla Stewart,

the matter was still further talked over and arrangements made for drafting a constitution. Later in the summer this important piece of work was accomplished, and the draft constitution was forwarded to the Provisional Committee members by mail, commented upon and criticised by them, and returned.

Nominations and elections of officers were made in the same way, entailing a great deal of work upon the London members and on Miss Breay, the provisional secretary.

In July, 1900, the Provisional Committee met again in London, and the constitution was adopted and election of officers announced.

The treasurer and secretary were requested to form a committee on organizing a congress of nurses to meet in Buffalo in September, 1901, at the invitation of the Buffalo Nurses' Association, to celebrate the new century.

CONSTITUTION ADOPTED JULY, 1900

PREAMBLE.

WE, nurses of all nations, sincerely believing that the best good of our profession will be advanced by greater unity of thought, sympathy, and purpose, do hereby band ourselves in a confederation of workers to further the efficient care of the sick, and to secure the honor and the interests of the nursing profession.

That we may more successfully prosecute this work we adopt the following constitution:

ARTICLE I.

1. The Federation shall be called the INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

OBJECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

(a) To provide a means of communication between the nurses of all nations, and to afford facilities for the interchange of international hospitality.

(b) To provide opportunities for nurses to meet together from all parts of the world, to confer upon questions relating to the welfare of their patients and their profession.

ARTICLE II.

HONORARY OFFICERS.

The honorary officers shall be trained nurses, and the elected honorary officers shall be *ex-officio* members of all committees.

1. A president.

2. Honorary presidents: A president of the International Council, having held the office for a full term, shall be made, upon retiring, honorary president of the council, with a vote on the Executive Committee and Grand Council for life.

3. Vice-presidents: The presidents for the time being of national councils of nurses affiliated to the International Council shall hold the position of vice-presidents.

4. Honorary vice-presidents: In all countries where a national council of nurses is not already organized or federated with the International Council, some representative nurse shall be elected by the Executive Committee to represent her country as honorary vice-president of that country in the International

Council until such time as a national council shall be fully organized and eligible for membership in the International Council.

5. Councillors: The councillors shall be the foundation members of the International Council of Nurses.

6. An honorary treasurer.

7. An honorary secretary.

ARTICLE III.

MEMBERS.

Any national council of nurses formed of representative societies and institutions of nurses, provided that their constitution be in harmony with the basis of the constitution of the International Council, may become a member of the International Council, with the approval of the executive, and by the payment of one pound per year for each of the four representatives deputed to act as delegates on the Grand Council of the International Council of Nurses.

ARTICLE IV.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the elected honorary officers, the vice-presidents, and honorary presidents.

ARTICLE V.

THE GRAND COUNCIL.

1. The Grand Council shall be composed of four delegates from each national council of nurses and the honorary officers, as defined in Article II.

ARTICLE VI.

MEETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

The International Council of Nurses shall hold quinquennial meetings, at which the president, honorary treasurer, and honorary secretary for the ensuing quinquennial period shall be appointed. Five shall form a quorum.

At the Grand Council, the honorary officers and the officially appointed delegates who compose the council will alone have power to vote on the business brought before it.

All business to be brought before the council must first be submitted to the Executive Committee as a notice of motion.

ARTICLE VII.

PUBLIC CONGRESS.

At any public congress on nursing convened by the International Council of Nurses, those eligible to vote must be trained nurses who are members of societies affiliated to the International Council of Nurses.

ARTICLE VIII.

FEES.

The annual dues shall be one pound a year per delegate for every society which is affiliated to the International Council of Nurses which has the privilege of representation on the International Council.

ARTICLE IX.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

The Executive Committee shall carry out all the arrangements for the quinquennial business meeting, but may depute to a special committee of arrangements in the country where a congress is going to be held the details of its organization.

ARTICLE X.

ALTERATION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

This constitution may be altered or amended by a majority vote of the council at any quinquennial meeting, printed notice thereof having been sent to each member of the council at least three months prior to such meeting.

COUNCILLORS

PRESIDENT.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, founder of the International Council of Nurses, late matron and superintendent of nursing, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

HONORARY SECRETARY.

Miss L. L. Dock, late superintendent of Illinois Training-School for Nurses, Chicago, secretary of the American Society of Superintendents of Training-Schools for Nurses.

HONORARY TREASURER.

Miss M. Agnes Snively, lady superintendent General Hospital, Toronto.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Miss Isla Stewart, matron and superintendent of nursing, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London; president Matrons' Council, Great Britain and Ireland.

Miss M. Breay, late matron of the Metropolitan Hospital, London, and of the English Hospital, Zanzibar; honorary secretary of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland.

Miss C. M. Beachcroft, late matron County Hospital, London.

Miss Cureton, lady superintendent Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Miss G. Knight, lady superintendent General Hospital, Nottingham.

Miss M. Mollett, matron Royal South Hants Infirmary, Southampton.

Miss M. Huxley, lady superintendent Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, Dublin.

Miss L. Bradshaw, lady superintendent Donnybrook Hospital, Dublin.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Miss A. Nutting, superintendent of nurses and principal of Training-School for Nurses, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore.

Miss Brennan, superintendent of Nurse Training-School, Bellevue Hospital, New York.

Mrs. Quintard, superintendent of Nurse Training-School, General Hospital, Puerto Principe, Cuba.

Miss Lucy Walker, superintendent of Nurse Training-School, Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia.

Miss Hanna Kindbom, superintendent of Nurse Training-School, John Sealy Hospital, Galveston, and professor of nursing in the University of Texas.

Miss I. Merritt, superintendent of Nurse Training-School, The City Hospital, Brooklyn.

THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

Miss Murray, lady superintendent Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal.

AUSTRALIA.

Miss S. B. McGahey, lady superintendent Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney.

Miss M. D. Farquharson, lady superintendent Melbourne Hospital, Melbourne.

NEW ZEALAND.

Mrs. Grace Neill, assistant inspector of hospitals, New Zealand.

DENMARK.

Frue Charlotte Norrie, corresponding secretary of the Danish National Council of Women, formerly engaged in nursing work in Denmark.

“ OPPORTUNITY ”

By JOHN J. INGALLS

MASTER of human destinies am I;
Fame, love, and fortune on my footsteps wait,
Cities and fields I walk; I penetrate
Deserts and seas remote, and, passing by
Hovel and mart and palace, soon or late
I knock unbidden once at every gate.

If sleeping, wake; if feasting, rise before
I turn away. It is the hour of fate,
And they who follow me reach every state
Mortals desire, and conquer every foe
Save death; but those who doubt or hesitate,
Condemned to failure, penury, and woe,
Seek me in vain and uselessly implore.
I answer not, and I return no more.